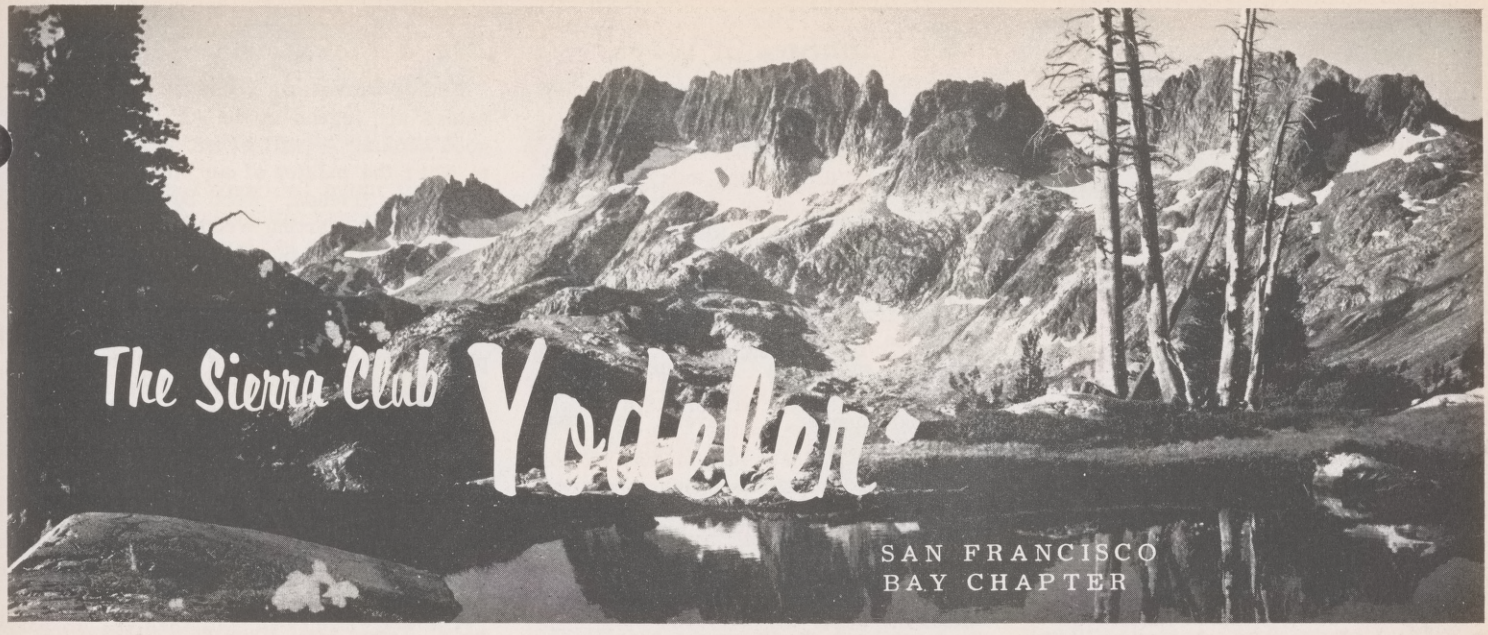

Volume XXI November 16, 1959 Number 17

We Read in the Papers!

The battle of the Northway in New York State, low level freeway by Lake Champlain or high scenic route through the Adirondacks Forest Preserve, resulted in a defeat for the conservationists in the November 3 election.

An article in the October issue of Harper's Magazine by Robert and Leona Rienow (Mr. Rienow is president of the East New York Chapter of the Nature Conservancy) calls attention to the exploitation and general destruction of wilderness that will follow the mountain freeway through land that was to remain "forever wild."

Not so! replies Roger W. Tubby, publisher of the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, in Harper's of November. There will be no commercial establishment, gas stations or billboards allowed along its entire length, and only 250 out of 2,500 acres of forest preserve is required.

The Argonaut, published by the Atlantic Chapter of Sierra Club, prints a careful appraisal by the chapter conservation committee, which reported in favor of the lower route on all grounds but cost, which remains an unknown quantity. They pointed out the basic thread: "....any compromise of principle inevitably sets a precedent for futher compromise."

In California battle for ducks is getting attention in the press. An article, "Spectacle of the Skies," by Joan Parry Dutton, in the November Readers Digest, gives the history of the Tule and Klamath Lakes bird refuges, key area in the Pacific Flyway.

Tule Lake refuge is being slowly and purposefully whittled away by encroaching

(continued on page 2)

Point Reyes Thank-You Note

When we set out last June to reach the first milestone of $1000 and start the Point Reyes Film Fund on its way, the final goal of $5000 seemed far away indeed. But now, thanks to our good friends, here we are, with enough to complete the film, pay the expenses of the printed appeal, and make some copies for loan.

Look for the full story in the next monthly Bulletin. —C.M.C.

Runner-Up Snow Queen

Don Huber reports that Irene Lanterman of the Sierra Club was runner-up to Francie Martin of the Die Sonnenberger Ski Club of Mountain View in the annual Bay Area Ski Federation "Snow Queen Ball", which was held on Friday, Nov. 13, in Peacock Court of the Mark Hopkins Hotel.

As 2nd place winner, Irene wins a trip to Sun Valley, along with the "Champ", Miss Martin. We understand that the "statistics" on the Sierra Club representative are — Age 20, weight 140 lbs., 5'10" tall, brown hair and blue eyes—good enough to attract the attention of any judge —say we! She is currently employed at the Mt. Shasta Der Wedeln Inn.

The "Ball" was very well attended, with more than 1000 dancers crowding the polished floors of Peacock Court to swing and sway to the music of local favorite Del Courtney and his orchestra.

All ticket sellers for this event are requested to return any unsold ducats to Don Huber as soon as possible. —EDB

the Santa Claus Express

Avoid the last minute holiday rush and get your tickets now for the annual Bay Chapter Christmas Party, 9 p.m. December 12, 1959. Remember: No tickets will be sold at the door. The door and the party are located at Bjornson Hall, 2258 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. The tickets $2.50 per person, are located at the Sierra Club Office (1050 Mills Tower, S.F.), and with John Bombay, Walt Oppenheimer, Harry Waterbury, Hazel Eggert, Ola Meyers, Herb Sabel, Mildred Holota, Helen Anthon, or Georgella Perry. Also a stamped, self-addressed envelope sent to Walt Ochse will procure the desired results.

Chairman Georgella Perry reports that her hard-working committees are creating a most enjoyable evening for you. Phil Faulconer's decorators will set the holiday scene; programming by Herb Sabel includes dancing to Murray Peterson's orchestra; the buffet supper is Maitre'd by Barbara Struze with liquid refreshments by Randy Dickey. Bjornson Hall is on MacArthur, one block east of Fruitvale. There is ample parking—or if you come by bus, Nos. 15 and 57 will serve you.

Now some information about the Pre-Party Parties. Several gatherings have been arranged to allow party go-ers more time to get acquainted and re-acquainted. In San Francisco, the "on-route" affair will be held from 7 to 8:30 in a spacious home with easy access to the bridge approach. Light refreshments will be served; cost: No more than 50¢ per person. For details call Anita Suran, MOntrose 4-5423 or Oscar and Chris Oritz, ATwater 2-5707. In the East Bay two cooperative

(continued on page 2)

Sierra Club Yodeler

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Cartoonist — Elaine Simpson
Production Manager — A. Louis Elliott

NEXT DEADLINE: Dec. 7

VOLUME XXINO. 17 — Nov. 16, 1959

Santa Claus Express (Cont.)

dinners have been planned, to cost not more than $2.50 per person. Host and hostess are Clyde Wiborg, 2857 Sylhowe Road, Oakland, KEllogg 2-2342 (Clyde says he is most easily reached before 8:30 a.m.) and Emily King, 1623 Josephine St., Berkeley, THornwall 8-4181. A cocktail party near Bjornson Hall is also in the planning stages; call Bob Hackmack, THornwall 3-8256, 5:30 p.m. - Midnight, or before 8 a.m. All chairmen, hosts and hostesses extend a cordial invitation to everyone to begin the evening with a Pre-Party and join in snowballing the fun. That's Saturday, December 12th, for Christmas festivities with your Sierra Club friends. We hope you will celebrate with us.

—Bonnie Hubbard
LAndscape 5-1704

Hospitality Needed

The combined Board and Council meetings on December 5-6 will bring many out-of-town delegates to the Bay Area. Housing for Friday and/or Saturday night and transportation from airports, are services that members in this district can offer.

Anyone with a spare bed (breakfast only) or with a car, who is willing to help the Hospitality chairman, Mrs. E. A. (Mary) Abeel provide for our guests, is urged to call as soon as possible, either the Sierra Club office or Mrs. Abeel at LAndscape 6-5399. —C.M.C.

Rock Climbers at Work

Ever watch an exciting film about Rock Climbers in action and wished that you could do that? I have—many times.

Twelve of us decided today to follow Francis Walcott down the Dipsea Trail to Stinson Beach to "watch" the Rock Climbers perform. Carl and Helen Weisner of the RCS met us at the beach and led the group southward to a large rock formation. They and their daughters, Carol (9) and Susan (7) had neat coils of rope slung over their shoulders in a professional manner. I haven't seen that much rope since the last Western Spectacular on TV!

I could feel that ole yellar streak down my spine broadening by the minute. Let's face it—I'm a coward.

Barbara Baxter of Vallejo and other club members joined us at the rock and, during the lunch hour, the Weisners, Nina Eloesser and Francis taught us how to tie bowline knots. Everyone learns this in preparation for climbing. We all mastered the knot quickly so Carl explained belaying and rappelling—these Weisners are patient teachers with a grand sense of humor. The cries of "on Belay", "off Belay" drew a curious crowd from the nearby beach.

Little Susan was the first one down, to show us that "there was nothing to it". These children take to rappelling like ducklings to water. Helen says that at 5 years a child is hesitant but at 6 they are eager to learn, so mothers, don't leave the kiddies home Nov. 14th when the next session of rope instruction will be held. Francis says that more of the same is promised in the next schedule and that he and Carl will lead a group over on Diablo. THAT I don't want to miss. Everyone in the party made several successful rappels. I'm not being modest, just truthful, when I say that I was the worst of the lot and I made three rappels so now you know that anyone can do it.

Our thanks to the RCS for offering instructions to us on their own time and at their expense. Off Belay!

—Pat Brakefield

Have a Thanksgiving Vacation!

Esther Blake and Tense Deal — These names are legend in the Alpine Club for good cooking — will be on hand at Echo to whet the palates of our club gourmets and their friends. Echo Summit Lodge will be open starting Wednesday, November 25th through Sunday, November 29th. The trip has been organized since the new Schedule went to press.

The published rates for the Lodge will prevail (see pp. 14-15 of new schedule), except that on Thanksgiving Day, dinner will be $3.00 instead of the regular $2.00 rate, to take care of planned extras.

It is preferred that RESERVATIONS be made through Rosalie Cummings, c/o Dr. Budd J. Smith, 450 Sutter Street, Suite 1607, San Francisco, DOuglas 2-3949, but if you live in Paradise, call Esther Blake at TRinity 7-4135, and for Peninsula members, Tense Deal lives at 850 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, DAvenport 2-6326.

Members should heed the winter tips on page 14 of the schedule and be prepared for weather conditions not common in the Bay Area.

SIGN UP NOW — be surprised too, by some more new look accomplished by the Tunzis, Murphys, Mendozas, Zinns and Morgans to mention a few of our hard workers who have been putting our Lodge in shape for the coming winter season.

—Trustees of Echo Summit Lodge

We Read ... (Continued)

farmlands, says Bud Boyd of the San Francisco Chronicle, who believes the Bureau of Reclamation is disregarding the Secretary of the Interior's order to keep the water level high enough for ducks. Drought has brought the situation to a critical point, but the battle has been going on for years. Thanks to Bud Boyd, the ducks are getting a little extra publicity.

Those who drive on U.S. 40 and sometimes have a chance to take their eyes off the car ahead will enjoy "Geology Along U.S. Highway 40" in the August issue of Mineral Information Service, official organ of the State Division of Mines.

Author Philip A. Lydon is a Sierra Club member, active in the Mother Lode Chapter. His careful, complete study of the geology and geologic history of the route, with strip maps of the old and new highway traversing the different formations, make this article a good companion on a trip to Norden. —C.M.C.

a Friendly Note from Far Places

I thought the "Yodeler" might like to know that we finally found Lee and Marty Talbot in Nairobe and had some wonderful visits with them - last May we thought we had a date with them for tea on the Serengeti Plains - but when we got there they had not arrived. Expected any day, "any minute" was what we were told - but we had to move on - then one day, driving across the dry lake at Ambaseli we were buzzed by a small plane! Lee, who was out on an air flight, had spotted our safari car. We learned the Talbots were still in Nairobi - so a week later we were all together learning of each other's activities.

Ours had been a wonderful safari - seeing all the animals - 150 lions - 200 elephants and thousands of wildebeasts and zebras, besides all the other animals in the book. The Talbots had been busy getting their equipment ready to go out and make a study of the wildebeasts. They had to shoot them with tranquilizers and then weigh and tag them (not all, but spot check) to learn where they migrate to. Lee and Marty were both fine and eager to be on their way in their little green Rover to spend a year on the Serengeti Plains. Having finished our safari, we took a look at Victoria Falls, others flew across the Indian Ocean to Australia and on to New Zealand. We had a nice visit with the Hillarys and then went on to see the New Zealand Alps. The day we got to Mt. Cook was perfect and we had a most marvelous flight around the mountain and over the glaciers. At South Wellington and at Christ Church we met with members of the New Zealand Alpine Club and found them very nice. They showed us pictures of the peaks we would see on our trip, and we have enjoyed every bit of it. We are now headed for Dunedin and then back to Auckland - and home.

—Marjorie Farquhar

Lazy Burros

I think Demetra Wilson's formation of the Lazy Knapsackers Group is one of the best ideas that has hit the Club in years! If one has to make like a pack animal, imitate the burro, and take it easy, (if a human hoof doesn't drive you with repeated slugs from behind.)

Demetra—it isn't too late for me to join, is it? No, it can't be, there must be lots of procrastinators like me in the group. Anyway, count me in—with a featherweight pack.

—Elsa Bailey

No Strike Here!

All summer buzz saws and pounding hammers have indicated that something new is brewing in the northwest corner of Clair Tappaan Lodge. A new library and card room below, and revamped women's dorm above will show our members and guests during the coming Olympic season that the lodge will be a warm and welcome place to stay. However, the work isn't done yet. All work on the lodge is done by club members and it seems only fair that members who derive benefit from the lodge should contribute to its improvement and upkeep. Work parties continue and those interested pay nothing for transportation or the weekend. The rewards range from exercise and fresh mountain air to personal satisfaction and fulfillment. Call Dan Lee in Berkeley and Anita Suran in San Francisco for rides.

About Hostessing: We're looking for Hostesses (and Hosts) for the coming Olympic ski season, beginning with Christmas. Anyone interested in assisting Keith during the morning and evening will receive the weekend free (including tow charges on Signal Hill - so Ski Signal!) and will have plenty of time to ski. Gives you a chance to meet lots of people. Write Dottie Ellis, 936 Cragmont, Berkeley, for dates and more information.

—Dorothy Ellis

For Photography Fans

Do your friends say your kodachromes are exceptionally interesting?

Nature photographers can give their color slides a wider audience by entering the first San Francisco International Nature Slide Exhibition.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Photochrome Club of San Francisco and will be presented a number of times throughout the Bay Area in March, including one showing for the Natural Science Section on March 18.

Each entrant may submit four 35 mm. color slides for judging. The final show is to be selected from among the best of those submitted. Included on the judging panel of five will be Phyllis Lindley of Berkekey.

February 29, 1960, is the last date for entries to be received. The entry fee is $1 (the exhibition is a non-profit operation). Blanks or information may be obtained from Betty Randall, 1931 Grant Ave., San Francisco 11, or YUkon 6-6118 in the evening.

Why not try your hand?

—Betty Randall

RIVER TOURING SECTION

At the monthly meeting November 13, our new chairman, John Bombay, presided. He announced the following appointments: Secretary, Claire Elliott; Treasurer, Bob Hawley; Safety, Elsa Bailey; Social, Syvia Bombay and Marjorie Lewis; Slalom, Red Cockerline; Exploration, Bryce Whitmore; Trips, Glenn Gaumer; Publicity, Elaine Simpson.

We were entertained by some excellent movies and pleasantly surprised by being served coffee and cookies by Sylvia Bombay. Our next meeting will be the Christmas party. Buy your tickets now and join us then.

—E. S.

Attention all Rivertourers, Folkdancers and Partylovers of all descriptions!

On Tuesday evening, December 8, at 8:00 o'clock, the Old Canoe House on Lake Merritt in Oakland will once more be the setting for that gay affair, the River Touring Section Christmas Party. The combo from the William Tell will set your feet adancing to polkas, waltzes, schottisches and maybe a few foxtrots. It's a thrill just to watch and listen as they create those wonderful sounds and rhythms (have you ever watched an artist on the zither?). The committee is scheming some special mixers and surprises and of course there'll be refreshments by candlelight overlooking the lake. Come reminisce or come and get acquainted with some of those intrepid kayakers.

Were you too late to get a ticket to the Halloween party? Don't miss out again. Send your check for $1.50 per person with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Barbara Tilden, 203 Magnolia Avenue, Piedmont. Do it now!

Wedded Bliss

Our Yodelears hear that Miss Jean Victoria Kearney has now become the lawful wedded wife of Mr. Don Robert McCluskey, as of Sunday, November 15. The newlyweds are planning on living in Sacramento following their honeymoon.

Dr. Gordon Bermak has married Dolores Ryan. Dolores is now immersed on taking care of the 'country estate' on Merriewood Drive--with the help of the two cats. She is dubious about going as far as shooting rapids with her husband.

East Bay Dinner

East Bay Dinner group will meet Wednesday, December 2, at 6:30 at the Willard Junior High School cafeteria, Telegraph and Ward Street, Berkeley, for an evening of slides by Estelle Marker.

She has named the series "Awareness", relating to a walk along the beach or a trail through the forest. What do you see? Come and find out what most of us don't see.

Reservations should be made with Lou Hayes, THornwall 8-2699, by Monday, November 30. —Jean Bonner

Any Good Slides ~Extra?

"I've taken pictures of that mountain until it's absolutely crumbling!"

Heard in the Northern Cascades, this exclamation typifies many a shutterbug's reaction on these beautiful mountain trips. And rare is the shutterbug who can resist the temptation to show at least all his good slides, no matter how many he may have shot on the same subject. This may bore some of his friends, but trying to eliminate any good ones is as hard as trying to decide which child to put out for adoption!

However, there is a way out. We have word that the boys in the Veterans Hospitals welcome a supply of good slides, and we are told that many of them prefer good pictures of scenery to the kind of artistic detail shots in which city-bound camera fans are often interested. The United Voluntary Services of Berkeley would be glad to see that any slides submitted are made available to the hospitals. They may be sent to Mrs. Evelyn Curtis, 5320 Broadway, Oakland 18. Each slide should be labeled with some identification of place and subject matter.

In addition to providing interest for the hospital patients, this suggestion should provide a welcome relief to the annual fall frustrations of many of our shutterbugs—and of their friends.

—Dorothy Durham

NATURAL SCIENCE SECTION

REMINDER:
Saturday, December 5, field trip to Lake Merritt, Oakland. Meet at Rotary Natural Science Center at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Paul Covell, Naturalist of the Oakland Park Department will guide us in the observation of water birds wintering in this area.

The Sierra Club

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Schedule Reminder

In these busy times we all need extra reminders now and then ... sometimes we even lose our schedule, practically towards the end of the period of usefulness. The items below will serve as a reminder for some and of the many interesting things the Bay Chapter is doing.

NOVEMBER 20 — FRIDAY

NATURAL SCIENCE MEETING: *Shells and Snails of San Francisco Bay Area.* Continuing with our theme of Bay Area natural history, this will be the subject of an illustrated program to be given by Allyn G. Smith, Research Malocologist of the California Academy of Sciences. *Meeting:* 8:00 P.M. *Mills Tower Assembly Room. Dinner:* Meet at 6:00 P.M. at the Mills Tower street entrance.

NOVEMBER 21 — SATURDAY

HIKING: *Fairfax to Lagunitas Lake and Return.* Take 8:15 Manor bus to Fairfax. Follow ARIE SCHUURMAN and OLA MYERS past the stables to Bon Tempe Dam, around the south side of the lake to Lake Lagunitas for lunch. Return under direction of the leaders to Fairfax for about a 10-mile loop.

NOVEMBER 22

HIKING: *Old Oak Hill Mines.* Start at Aetna Springs resort for a loop hike of historic mining country. This 11-mile hike visits six of the Oat Hill Mines and a very large brick kiln used for mercury separation. Fine view of Pope Valley. Good trail, but bring liquids. A joint trip with Redwood Chapter. *Leader:* VERNE VAN VLEAR. Chartered bus leaves S.F. Greyhound Depot at 7:30 A.M. Fare of $3.50 must be in club office by Wednesday, November 18.

NOVEMBER 22

ROCK CLIMBING: *Indian Rock.* See Sept. 13 for directions on getting there. The leaders are CHUCK BELLING and JUDY (I-12) MACFARLANE.

NOVEMBER 26-29

ROCK CLIMBING: *Tahquitz.* This rock is the only thing in the U.S. *and* A. which is in the same class as Yosemite, and some say it is even better. You will have to contact the leaders, MIKE LOUGHMAN and CHARLIE RAYMOND, for details about where to go, as I have not been there either, but intend to remedy it. Transportation and climbing strictly restricted to R.C.S. members.

NOVEMBER 28 — SATURDAY

HIKING: *Corte Madera to Colier Spring.* Take the 8:15 A.M. bus to Corte Madera and meet leaders BETTY and JIM MCCRACKEN. They will guide you up Corte Madera Hill and via Northside trail and Colier Spring for lunch. We should have good views from the ridges. Distance: 10 mies with 1800-ft. climb. Return with leaders to bus at Corte Madera.

NOVEMBER 29

HIKING: *Big Basin State Park Circular.* Assemble at the Ranger station in Big Basin Park by 9:00 A.M. to meet leader JIM WATTERS. We hike the Berry Creek to Lower Fall and Silver Fall. Here we stop for lunch in the gorge at the base of this beautiful waterfall. Return via the Cascades, Golden Fall and along new Sunset Trail. Distance: 11 miles. Private car trip. Call leader if you need or can furnish transportation.

DECEMBER 2 — WEDNESDAY

EAST BAY DINNER: *Awareness* is the title of this outstanding slide series by Estelle Marker. If you have ever felt that you are missing something as you walk along a beach or mountain trail because you don't quite know how to 'see' as you look about you, this program will really open your eyes. Come early for conversation before dinner which is served at 6:30 in the Willard Jr. High School Cafeteria, Telegraph and Ward Sts., Berkeley. The program begins at 7:30. For information and dinner reservations call LOU HAYES before 10 P.M., November 30.

DECEMBER 5 — SATURDAY

HIKING: *Ross to Fairfax.* Take the 8:35 A.M. bus to Ross. Leader MARGARET HANSON will take you via Phoenix Lake, the Harry Allen Trail and Eldridge Grade to the lunch spot at Redwood Springs. After lunch proceed along the Lower Northside Trail to Colier Spring, on to Berry Trail to Lake Lagunitas and finally to Fairfax for refreshments and the bus. Distance: 10 miles. *Coleader:* FIONA BAUGHMAN.

DECEMBER 5 — SATURDAY

NATURAL SCIENCE FIELD TRIP: *Lake Merritt, Oakland.* Mr. PAUL COVELL, Naturalist of the Oakland Park Department, will meet us at the Rotary Natural Science Center at 10:00 A.M. We will have the opportunity to observe the large numbers of water birds that winter in this area.

DECEMBER 6

HIKING: *Mountain Home to Muir Woods and Return.* Take the 8:15 A.M. bus to Mountain Home. Follow leader STEVE WYCKOFF via Troop 80 Trail to Pan Toll, thence over the Staplevelt Trail to Muir Woods for lunch. From Muir Woods go up Ocean View Trail to Mountain Home for the return bus. Distance: about 6 miles. *Co-leader* FRANCIS BELLIN.

DECEMBER 6

ROCK CLIMBING: *Cragmont.* See Sept. 27 for directions. See the schedule a couple of issues ago for some clever remark. All we can think of including is some blank verse:

The leaders are DICK HOUSTON and BOB CEUNE.

DECEMBER 12 — SATURDAY

HIKING: *Mt. Diablo.* True to tradition, we visit Mt. Diablo this late fall Saturday. This is not an easy walk, even though the mileage is short. Bring boots, as the slopes on this side of the mountain are steep. Liquids for lunch are advisable, as there is no water at the lunch stop. A private car trip. Call WALT OPPENHEIMER for transportation and information.

DECEMBER 13

HIKING: *Pt. Reyes National Seashore Project.* The Forests west of Olema and the spectacular rocky seashore of Pt. Reyes face a double peril. Lumber companies threaten the forests; subdividers are eyeing the Drake's Bay sea frontage. To see this area, hear what is being done, and what you can do to help preserve this valuable tract, don't miss this trip. There will be a short morning forest walk, and afternoon beach walk. A private car trip. For transportation call CICELY CHRISTY, East Bay; KEN MCCREADY, San Francisco. **

DECEMBER 13

ROCK CLIMBING: *Miraloma.* We have said it before, and we will probably say it again (I have one more schedule to make up before my term is up), but we won't tell you how to get there because you just can't get there from here, no matter where you are. So meet at University and Shattuck in Berkeley at 11 A.M. or at the Fremont St. entrance of the East Bay Terminal at 11:45 in S.F. Instruction will be given in piton placing and *removal.* Leaders are ED ROPER and GEORGE MANDATORY.

** Please note the new telephone number for Ken McCready is GRaystone 4-9014.